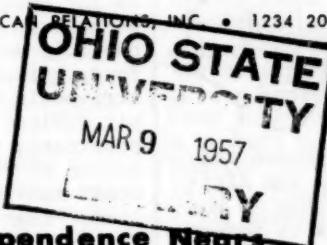


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# Africa

## SPECIAL REPORT

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### Ghana Stands By as Independence Nears

The Gold Coast will be granted independence from Great Britain on March 6 of this year.

African legislators will swear allegiance to the new state at midnight and go into an all night vigil at the seat of government in Accra, where in company with expected thousands of their countrymen they will watch in a mixed atmosphere of solemnity and rejoicing as dawn breaks over the sovereign nation of Ghana, first Negro country in Africa to be detached from colonial rule.

The event is regarded in many quarters as potentially one of the most significant to take place in Africa in modern times and its impact is already being felt elsewhere in the continent. South Africa is among the countries which will be represented at the ceremonies.

Nationhood will come to Ghana (the name is taken from an ancient African kingdom that flourished for nine centuries in the West African interior) exactly 113 years after the legalization of British authority, nine years after the politically pivotal African march on the British governor's residence in Christianborg Castle, and six years after the release of Kwame ("The Man") Nkrumah from prison so he could become Leader of Government Business rather than serve out a sentence for activities which had up to then been regarded as seditious.

Prime Minister Nkrumah will lead a festive week of celebration March 3-10, featuring parades, prayers, banquets and fireworks, and highlighted by the state opening of Parliament and swearing in of officials on the 6th. The Duchess of Kent will deliver a message from the Queen and a Governor-General will be designated to maintain the ceremonial link with Britain and the Commonwealth.

A major American interest in the creation of Ghana is being manifested in the visit of Vice-President Nixon to Accra as head of a U.S. Delegation which includes Congresswoman Frances Bolton (R-Ohio), Congressman Charles Diggs (D-Mich.), Virgin Islands Governor Walter A. Gordon and Mason Sears, U. S. Representative on the UN Trusteeship Council.

The Vice-President is also expected to visit long-independent Liberia and Ethiopia and the geographically critical Sudan.

American press and radio services will be on hand to report the festivities and special coverage is planned by the U.S. Information Service and Voice of America.

President Horace Mann Bond of Lincoln University will represent Lincoln and the Institute of African-American Relations at the celebrations in Accra.

Celebrations are also planned in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, San Francisco, Madison, Oberlin, Ann Arbor, Champagne, Cleveland and elsewhere.

"Ghana," an autobiography by Kwame Nkrumah, will be released on Independence Day by Thomas Nelson & Sons, New York (\$5).

The Gold Coast government is of course making major preparations for the transferral of power, and is now putting final touches on everything from films and booklets to postage stamps, new currency, new flags and a new constitution.

Behind the scenes, leaders were dealing soberly with the problem of secessionist tendencies in the old Kingdom of Ashanti and financial obstacles raised by reportedly lessening prospects for the Volta River aluminum development plan and apparent uncertainty over future British economic aid to the country, whose economy is now geared so closely to the world demand for cocoa.

But responsible British and African officials were speaking with considered optimism as independence neared and one commentator did not intend flippancy when he remarked: "Fears today, Ghana tomorrow."

Meanwhile, the French National Assembly, moving in advance of Ghana self-rule, this month reached a compromise agreement on liberalized rule in surrounding areas of French black Africa. Stressing the theme of economic and political partnership, the French also began to push hard for European aid to develop Africa's potential as a thriving consumers' market as well as a major resource area.

## EUROPEANS BID FOR MORE CONTROL IN THE RHODESIAS

AS INDEPENDENCE DAY neared in the West African Gold Coast, demands for a lessening of British control were reaching a high pitch 2700 miles away in the prosperous young Central African Federation, where the goal of building a stable European and African state on the basis of partnership is posing one of the critical challenges of modern Africa.

The demands for greater independence were coming from the Federation's European leadership, and with elections expected fairly soon, the incumbent Federal Party was apparently siding with its rivals in the bid for more autonomy, although previous agreements have specified that constitutional relationships would not be revised until 1963.

Britain's Colonial Secretary, Alan Lennox-Boyd, visited the Federation last month, heard views from all sides, with suspicious Africans from Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland asking that the Federation be dissolved while European leaders sought a surer local hand to preserve it. Lennox-Boyd assured Africans that Britain stands by "certain solemn promises" it made when the Federation was formed three years ago, but he added firmly: "Federation is here to stay."

A London newsman, Roy Lewis of the Economist, commented in a radio broadcast that the Secretary's visit was very timely, "for trouble should be nipped in the bud and trouble is growing in the Federation."

Sir Roy Welensky, the Federation's new Prime Minister, whose strength is yet to be tested among the country's primarily European electorate, says he is "no longer prepared to accept the imputations of unreadiness for responsibility on the part of Europeans of the Federation."

"It would be foolish to believe," he added, "that the nationalist movements of the native peoples of this continent do not have a lively effect on each other or that the example of successful irresponsibility (evidently a reference to Egypt) in the North will not make a profound impression on the minds of demagogues in our midst."

Citing the need for "civilized standards" in government, he contended that irresponsible



## A NEW FEDERATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA? AFRICANS SEEK A DOMINION OF THEIR OWN

(By Special Correspondent)

NAIROBI—A new idea for a fresh link-up of African territories is intriguing Africans as far apart as Blantyre in Nyasaland and Kampala in Uganda. The plan was first aired publicly during the visit of Mr. Alan Lennox-Boyd, Britain's Colonial Secretary when he arrived in Nyasaland recently, fresh from the big Cabinet reshuffle, to face an almost impenetrable wall of opposition to the present set-up of the Central African Federation. He found many Nyasalanders seeking anything rather than perpetuation of the link with Southern Rhodesia and its predominately European Government.

The authors of the plan are seeking, instead, to create a new Dominion embracing Nyasaland, Tanganyika and Uganda. This would, of course, be a grouping in which African interests were paramount and the plan definitely excludes Kenya and the threat of White Settler influence from that quarter.

Economically everything is against such a plan, attractive as it may sound to African nationalists in the three territories concerned. The weakest link can be seen on any map: the northern tip of Nyasaland just touches southwestern Tanganyika and virtually no trade passes between these territories. Nevertheless, despite the Nyasalanders healthy economic relationship within the existing Central African Federation, their antagonism toward Southern Rhodesia and suspicion of the way things are going in Northern Rhodesia leads many to favor the new plan.

For their part, many Uganda Africans, fearful that an East African Federation might yet be pressured upon them from Nairobi, would welcome a link with other countries where Africans are destined to rule themselves in the near future.

African nationalists in Tanganyika, set back by Britain's firm rejection of the 1954 U.S. Visiting Mission's recommendations toward earlier self-government, see in this new plan some hope for a speedier attainment of the same end.

Although Mr. Lennox-Boyd firmly rejected the idea in Nyasaland, more may be heard of this concept of an all-African Dominion between the Capricorn and the Equator.

African leaders were interested in African domination rather than partnership, and that Africans were looking to Britain as a sort of opposition to the local Rhodesian Governments. (The British Colonial Office is still respon-

## news briefs

•CHARGED with financial misconduct by an investigating tribunal of the British Colonial Office, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, Premier of the Eastern Region of Nigeria and the father of organized nationalist parties in Africa, will submit his case to the voters in region-wide elections March 15.

The Eastern Region House of Assembly was dissolved immediately after the findings were published so that Dr. Azikiwe could prove his support prior to a scheduled conference between Nigerian and British officials which has been called to revise the country's constitution.

Dr. Azikiwe's party, the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons, has announced its determination to press at the conference for immediate self-government of a unified Nigeria.

Observers have not looked for defeat of the popular Dr. "Zik" at the hands of loyal followers in the Eastern Region, but the Action Group party under the leadership of Premier Awolowo of the Western Region has announced its intention to campaign for all 84 seats in the East, using a broomstick symbol to suggest sweeping away "corruption."

•AS SOUTH AFRICA'S mass treason inquiry droned on in Johannesburg, another dramatic issue was assuming major proportions in the Union. According to the New York Times, an African boycott of busses was spreading beyond Johannesburg as 60,000 workers walked to and from work rather than pay a 56 cent monthly

sible for Africans in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland). He said it was a situation which must cause serious trouble in the Federation, and, unless corrected, prevent the building up of a "common loyalty to the Federation in the minds of our African population." Let Britain realize, he added, that "we may well become the last bastion of British interests in Africa."

In London, however, newsman Lewis said a key question posed was how Britain could possibly agree to withdraw unless the Africans are given more representation in Parliament and a more liberal franchise so they could look after their own interests.

Meanwhile, the Federation continued to boom. Last year alone witnessed the arrival of 26,000 white immigrants, equivalent to 10 per cent of the European population. The

fare increase out of \$35 monthly wages. Some had reportedly walked 500 miles since the boycott began, arriving late, tired and hungry. The Africans, it was reported, were finding a potent weapon for pressuring the white-controlled economy, and the Government was moving to smash the boycott. This month police broke up one boycotters meeting with sten guns and batons, injuring 20 Africans in a measure described by a Christian Science Monitor correspondent as "highly provocative in this tense situation." The Monitor said 7,500 Africans have been arrested so far.

•A TANGANYIKA CORRESPONDENT reports that Africans last month decorated the streets of Dar es Salaam, the trust territory's capital city on the Indian Ocean, and turned out some 30,000 strong to welcome Julius Nyerere, president of the Tanganyika African National Union, on his return home from a recent visit to Britain and the United States. (In the U. S., Nyerere sought out scholarships for his African followers and addressed a UN committee in New York.) Singing Africans followed Nyerere into town from the airport by truck, taxi and on foot. A crowd surrounded one European woman in her car and forced her off the road in an incident unusual for Tanganyika. NOTE: AT PRESS TIME, THE LONDON TIMES REPORTED THE TANGANYIKA GOVERNMENT HAD BANNED NYERERE FROM HOLDING TWO TANU MEETINGS AT TANGA, A NORTHERN DOCK TOWN, BECAUSE OF NYERERE'S RECENT "INFLAMMATORY" SPEECHES.

•THE U.S. State Department plans to open four new posts in Africa by mid-1957. They will be located at Mogadiscio, Somalia; Kampala, Uganda; Yaounde, French Cameroons; and Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

state is expanding its net income at a rate of 12 per cent each year and Rhodesian leaders are hopeful that growing economic benefits will ease the way to acceptance of partnership.

\* \* \*

The Central African Federation has announced plans to establish a diplomatic mission in Washington April 1 attached to the British Embassy. It will be the first of its kind for the new Federation and will be headed by former Southern Rhodesia Finance Minister Sir Edgar Whitehead, who has been appointed to serve one year as Minister Plenipotentiary.

\* \* \*

Lord Llewellyn, first Governor-General of the Central African Federation and titular link between the Federation and Britain, died January 23 in Salisbury of a heart ailment. He was 62.

**AFRICAN QUESTIONS  
IN THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE UN;  
HOW THE U. S. IS VOTING**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- 13 Dec—Approval of union of British Togoland with independent Gold Coast; Carried 64-0 (Abstain:9) U.S.—For.
- 23 Jan—Dispatch of five-member UN Commission to study recent reforms in French Togoland; Carried 53-16 (Abstain:7) U.S.—For.
- 30 Jan—Resolution urging end of discriminatory race policies in South Africa; Carried 56-5 (Abstain:12) U.S.—Abstain. Resolution on treatment of Indians in South Africa; Carried 49-0 (Abstain:11) U.S.—For.
- 15 Feb—Resolution seeking peaceful democratic and just solution of Algeria problem; Carried 76-0. U.S.—For.

**FOURTH (Trusteeship) COMMITTEE  
(General Assembly Vote Pending)**

- 20 Dec—Resolution urging reforms in Southwest Africa; Carried 43-0 (Abstain:12) U.S.—For.
- 24 Jan—Recommendation of target dates for educational development in non-self-governing territories; Carried 43-7 (Abstain:11) U.S.—Abstain.
- 25 Jan—Recommendation of intensified efforts toward educational advancement in non-self-governing territories; Carried 49-0 (Abstain:16) U.S.—Abstain.
- 5 Feb—Recommendation for ad hoc committee to study reports of new members pertaining to non-self-governing territories within their jurisdiction (Aimed at Portugal which has reported it has no such territories); Carried 35-33 (Abstain:4) U.S.—Opposed.

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**business notes**

SHIPPING RATES on the United States-South Africa routes, considered the lowest of the world's long haul trades, will be increased approximately 10 per cent effective April 1.

FEDERATION of Rhodesia and Nyasaland exports over 90 per cent of its tobacco, valued at \$70 million, or three-fourths of total farm exports, says U.S. Department of Agriculture's "RHODESIAN TOBACCO - What It Means to the American Farmer." Copies are available.

AFRICAN mineral production continues to grow. The first ingot of aluminum in Africa was made at Edea, French Cameroons, where the plant expects to produce 10,000 tons in 1957. A high quality nickel deposit has been reported near Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. Copper mined in Rhodesia in 1956 is expected to hit a record value of \$336 million. And geologists plan an intensive survey of Northern Rhodesia this year for radioactive minerals.

KENYA is appropriating \$70,000 to help industrialize tribal areas where farming will not support the population. An 11 member African Industrial Estates Development Committee will help administer the program. The committee includes three Africans.

INVESTMENTS in the Union of South Africa appear to pay well. A survey of 252 industrial companies showed the dividend yield on the market price averaged 7.14%, 7.78% and 7.39% respectively for the three consecutive years ended June 30, 1955, according to Africa Economic Newsletter.

SOUTH AFRICA'S uranium export for 1956 climbed to an estimated \$106 million, placing it third only to gold and wool. One mine claims output equaling 640 tons of uranium metal or 4.4 per cent of world production.

GOLD COAST COCOA crop for 1956-57 may reach a bumper 560 million pounds.

PEPSI-COLA has opened a bottling plant at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, its 254th overseas unit.

John B. George, IAAR Executive Director, will talk on "Emergent Africa" at 8:30 p.m. March 5 in the National Science Foundation Auditorium, 23 Madison Pl., N.W. Washington, D.C. as part of an Antioch College alumni association lecture series. The public is invited.

**THE INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS**

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